

## INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Chinnampo Customs Service

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## 1. The Chinnampo Customs Service during 1950 was organized as follows:

- a. Chief officers: HAN Ik-su (韓益守), 42, former laborer, Customs Controller; XI Man-chung (李萬仲), 46, former fisherman, chairman of the Net (sic) Committee; PAK Chong-chun (朴重俊), 36, former dock laborer, Trade Union Customs Committee chairman.
- b. Staff: 18 members, including those mentioned above, of whom 15 were North Korean Labor Party (NKLP) members.
- c. Offices: Besides the main office in Chinnampo there were branch offices in Pyongyang and Haeju (125-42, 38-02) and agencies in Yohyon (126-26, 38-00) and Monggumpo (124-48, 38-10).

## 2. According to a report made to the Finance Ministry of the North Korean government by the Chinnampo Customs, 30 ships had entered and left that port during 1949 and had paid a total of 150,000,000 North Korean won to the Customs as duty. About 40,000,000 North Korean won was collected as additional taxes by the Customs during 1949.

## 3. Most of the shipping business in Chinnampo was handled by the Chinnampo branch office of the Soviet Korean Sea Transportation Company,\* with main office in Pyongyang and other branches in Chongjin, Wonsan, and Hungnam. The manager of the Chinnampo office was a Soviet, assisted by a Korean.

## 4. The following is a table of ships which entered and left Chinnampo from September 1949 to August 1950:

Name	Tonnage	Owner	Number of Entries and Departures
SS AIVAZOVSKY** (German built)	4,000 tons	Owned by Soviet-Korean Sea Transportation Co.	6
SS AZOV** (Soviet built)	3,500	Soviet-Korean Sea Transportation Company	4
SS ALDAN** (Japanese built)	2,500	Soviet-Korean Sea Transportation Company	5
SS EASTERN VENTURE** (British built)	4,000	British company	8

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SS TAE CHANG (泰昌)	80	Unknown North Korean firm	?
SS IL SUNG	300	Unknown North Korean firm	?
SS SONG	100	Unknown North Korean firm	?

5. In addition to these ships the following also entered Chinnampo:

- a. SS GOLGORI (?GOGOL): 4,000 tons; 3 entries; Soviet registration; no imported goods; 8,000 tons of rice exported for Vladivostok; no customs duty because export was made as a governmental transaction.
- b. SS TIMERS : 12,000 tons; British registration; entered October 1950; no imports; exports unknown.
- c. SS ANTAN JOHNS (?) : 10,000 tons; British registration; entered spring 1950; no imports; 10,000 tons of corn for the Netherlands exported by the Chosen Shipping Company; value of the export 75,000,000 North Korean won; 50 men of the 80-man crew were Greek.
- d. Name unknown : 7 - 10,000 tons; Soviet registration; 4 entries; destination Kyomipo (125-38, 38-44); arrived from Sakhalin; exported coal.

6. Korean or other crew members of foreign ships in Chinnampo were allowed to bring only the following ashore duty free: two suits, two suits of underwear; one watch, one fountain pen, two pencils, two cakes of soap, one toothbrush, one package of toothpaste, one towel, and six pairs of socks. In March 1950 the Customs Office sold illegal possessions confiscated from seamen in port; most of the goods were United States manufactured medicines. An income of 1,000,000 North Korean won was realized from the sale.

7. The following companies dealt with the Customs Service:

- a. Chosen Trading Company,\* Pyongyang, a government agency.
- b. Yong Min Company,\*\*\* Pyongyang, NKLP agency.
- c. Churin\*\*\* Trading Company, Pyongyang, run by a Soviet businessman who also had a department store in Pyongyang.
- d. Sonil Firm,\*\*\* Pyongyang, connected with the North Korean People's Army.

✓ 8. The following were the various import and export items from Chinnampo:

- a. Import items from Hong Kong: Vehicles, presses, textile machinery, raw rubber, sterilizers, medical supplies, medicines, paper, candy, fabrics, tires, radio sets. All these were United States products.
- b. Import items from China: Broadcloth, blankets, silks, Chinese medicine.
- c. Import items from Soviet Union: Petroleum, oil, kerosene, wool, cotton fabrics, movie film.
- d. Export items to Hong Kong: Corn, bean cake, starch, dried cuttlefish, dried seaweed, dried clams, crab meat, ginseng.
- e. Export items to China: Corn, bean cake, carbide, graphite, arsenious acid, rayon yarn, ginseng, dried cuttlefish, clam meat, crab meat.

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f. Export items to the Soviet Union: Iron, fertilizer, soaps, rice.

9. The exchange rate during this period was generally 1 North Korean won to one ruble, 45 North Korean won to one Hong Kong dollar and 315 North Korean won to one United States dollar.

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\* Comment. The Soviet-Korean Sea Transportation Company is also known as Chosen Sangsa, the Chosen Trading Company (Mortrans). For information on the connection of this company with the Metropolitan Commercial Company, owners of the EASTERN VENTURE, in the North Korean trade see [REDACTED] 25X1A

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\*\* Comment. Activities of the AIVAZOVSKY, AZOV, and ALDAN in connection with the Soviet-Korean Sea Transportation Co. have been reported in [REDACTED] 25X1A

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\*\*\* Comment. Activities of the Sonil Company and the Yong Min Trading Company were reported in [REDACTED] 25X1A. The Churin organization in North Korea was discussed in [REDACTED] 25X1A

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